

2004 Yale World Fellows



J.R. Nereus Acosta – Philippines

Philippine congressman Nereus Acosta, 38, has spurred a sea change in the way the Philippine government views the environment. He is the principal author of environmental laws on solid waste management, biodiversity, and pollution in the Philippines, where illnesses from contaminants and water-borne sources are a significant problem. In 1999, he made history by becoming the only freshman legislator with a national law to his name when he authored the Clean Air Act for the Philippines. In addition to politics, Acosta has already distinguished himself in academics and the non-profit arena, especially in microfinance and rural development programs. After receiving his doctorate in political science from the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii in 1994, Acosta returned to the Philippines and became the youngest person ever elected to his local provincial council. Acosta was elected to the national Congress in 1998, and is currently chairman of the Committee on Ecology, and vice-chairman of the committees

on Science and Technology, Human Rights, and Foreign Relations. He has represented the Philippines in numerous international forums, including the United Nations Special Assembly on HIV/AIDS and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development, where he now serves as Deputy Secretary-General.



Cecilia Barja-Chamas – Bolivia

La Paz city councilwoman Cecilia Barja-Chamas, 28, helped found Bolivia's *Movimiento Sin Miedo* (MSM) or *Movement Without Fear*, a new political party devoted to eliminating corruption and addressing the pressing problem of poverty. Her passionate and eloquent advocacy on behalf of the urban poor in Bolivia has propelled her political career. In 2000, she became the youngest person ever elected to the La Paz City Council. As councilwoman, she has served as president of the Commission for Political Development, secretary of the Commission for Institutional Development, Leader of the Ethics Commission and acting mayor. She has also campaigned tirelessly on behalf of the city's impoverished youth, organizing scholarships and work programs and overseeing the formation of a Municipal Youth Council. Since 2003, Barja-Chamas has also served as national executive secretary for the MSM Party. In rallies and meetings across Bolivia, she speaks forcefully about the need to return power to

the local level in Bolivia and, in so doing, give birth to a new generation of honest and forward-looking politicians.



Olivier Cattaneo – France

As a key policy adviser to the French Government, Olivier Cattaneo has his finger on the pulse of France's economic efforts around the world. At just 29, he has risen to the rank of Principal Trade Policy Adviser at the Agence Francaise de Developpement, the French government agency in charge of international economic aid. He is also one of France's leading trade experts, having worked for the French Parliament, the French Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, the French Ministry of Health, the United Nations Legal Liaison Office, the World Trade Organization and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Today, in addition to his work for France's Development and Aid Ministry, Cattaneo serves as Adjunct Law Professor at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris. Cattaneo's academic work deals with various aspects of trade including the interpretation of the TRIPS Agreement, which establishes comprehensive standards for the protection of intellectual property and the enforcement of related rights in WTO member countries.



Karina Dashko – Russia

As a leading corporate governance expert, Karina Dashko represents a new generation of Russians committed to building a country based on the rule of law, market economies and good governance. The 37-year-old Dashko has worked with the State Duma, the Russian Congress, to develop programs for disclosing corporate information and protecting minority shareholders. Currently, she serves as a senior lawyer with Vimpelcom, one of Russia's leading providers of wireless telecommunications services. Prior to Vimpelcom, Dashko helped draft plans for the Russian Security Exchange regulatory body. Dashko advises numerous Russian companies on corporate governance issues, ranging from information disclosure policies to insider trading rules. She has also served as a legal consultant to the International Finance Corporation, where she helped promote sustainable private sector investment in developing countries.



Ilir Dugolli – Kosovo

As a top policy adviser to the Kosovo Prime Minister, Ilir Dugolli, 28, coordinates the work of all political appointees assigned to that office. Considered a confidant of Prime Minister Bajram Rexhepi, Dugolli's political trajectory has been meteoric from the time he was a student activist in the 1990s. Dugolli helped lead protests against the human rights abuses of the Milosevic regime in Kosovo. He received an LLM in Comparative Constitutional Law from the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, in 2001 and went on to found the Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development (KIPRED) in 2002. From 2002 to 2004, KIPRED has sponsored policy training sessions for lawmakers from every one of Kosovo's political parties. Dugolli has taught in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration and the School of Law at the University of Prishtina. An expert in human rights and constitutional law, Dugolli is a frequent contributor to both daily newspapers and academic journals in Kosovo.



Aboubakr Jamaï – Morocco

Aboubakr Jamaï is publisher of Morocco's leading business newspaper, *Le Journal Hebdomadaire* and its sister publication, *Assahifa al-Ousbouiya*. His papers have tackled tough topics such as government corruption, corporate impropriety, and other taboo political subjects in Morocco. Jamaï, 36, began his career in finance, co-founding Morocco's first independent investment bank in 1993. After two years advising international emerging market funds with holdings in North Africa, the company, Upline Securities, became the first Moroccan-based bank ever selected to manage a privatization project in Morocco. Jamaï's foray into journalism came in 1995, when he began writing a column on the relationship between international financial markets and the Moroccan financial market for a weekly economic newspaper. *Le Journal* won the prestigious International Press Freedom Award in 2003 for its investigative journalism.



Tinatin Khidasheli – Georgia

Attorney Tinatin Khidasheli is striving to eradicate state corruption in Georgia. As president of the Georgian Young Lawyers' Association, the 31-year-old Khidasheli has also played an important role in observing parliamentary elections in Georgia and uncovering electoral fraud. As head of the Young Lawyers' Association, Khidasheli has created dispute-resolution programs on a global level and lobbied for the creation of state-run legal aid services for the poor and disenfranchised. As one of the most public faces of the recent political upheaval in Georgia, Khidasheli defended detained political activists in the Georgian courts and spoke forcefully in press interviews about the need for democratic reforms. She is also a member of the National Anti-Corruption Council in Georgia. The Council's Legal Aid Center has served thousands of Georgians across 72 distinct communities in the past five years.



Sang-Jo Kim – South Korea

Professor Sang-Jo Kim has played a key role in building consensus for economic recovery programs following South Korea's financial crisis in the late nineties. Kim is a professor of Economics at Hansung University and chairs the Participatory Economy Committee of the People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD), a civil organization dedicated to promoting justice and human rights in Korean society. Under his leadership, the group won a landmark lawsuit against the directors of Samsung Electronics in a case that more clearly defines the fiduciary responsibilities of corporate directors. In 2003, he was instrumental in promoting corporate governance initiatives through the passage of the Security Class Action Act. Kim also belonged to a special economic advisory group that counsels the President of South Korea, serving a full one-year appointment to the Korea Tripartite Commission. South Korea's *Hankyoreh* newspaper named Kim one of this year's Ten Economic Leaders in Korea. He is also Director of the Korean Professors' Association for Democracy in Seoul.



John Kingman – United Kingdom

John Kingman leads five departments as head of the Enterprise and Growth Unit of the United Kingdom Treasury Department, and is one of the youngest undersecretaries in the British civil service. Kingman is closely involved in the British Government's forthcoming 10-year framework for investment in science and innovation. The 35-year-old Kingman has also been involved in a number of major policy reviews, including initiatives focused on institutional investment and university-business collaboration. After graduating from St. John's College at Oxford in 1990, Kingman held a variety of posts at the British Treasury during the early nineties. From 1995 to 1998, he wrote for the *Financial Times* "Lex" Column and worked in the Chief Executive's office at British Petroleum. From 1999 to 2000, back at the Treasury, Kingman served as Press Secretary to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.



Paul Kwengwere – Malawi

Paul Kwengwere is the policy director for ActionAid Malawi, where he seeks to reduce poverty and disease in southern Africa. The 40-year-old Kwengwere is credited with increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of ActionAid Malawi in dealing with a range of critical issues, from food insecurity and the HIV/AIDS crisis to economic policy. Kwengwere believes that change requires effort at the grass-roots level. One of his goals is to aid local institutions in Africa by developing international affiliations that will provide equal access to food resources. Prior to joining ActionAid, Kwengwere held posts in the Government of Malawi, the Malawi Central Bank and the Malawi Investment Promotion Agency. A graduate of the University of Malawi, Kwengwere was the recipient of an African Economic Research Consortium scholarship.



Michael Ma – China

Michael Ma is one of China's leading environmentalists. He is the author of the acclaimed book, *China's Water Crisis*, a landmark study on the historical origins of China's present day problems with floods, water scarcity and water pollution. He now works as a partner at the SINOSPHERE Corporation, where he advises multinational corporations on Chinese labor and environmental regulations. Ma, 36, recently designed a comprehensive framework that a major U.S. corporation will use to ensure that Chinese suppliers comply with corporate social responsibility standards. Prior to his career as a consultant, Ma worked for the *South China Morning Post*. Today, he continues to promote sustainable environmental management through publications and lectures.



Nay Win Maung – Myanmar

Publisher Nay Win Maung has been a leading critic of the government in Myanmar through his magazine, *Living Color*. Working as a publisher in a country where government policies toward the media are restrictive, at best, Maung, 41, is widely read in Myanmar and the influence of *Living Color* magazine continues to grow. In the past decade, Maung has written more than 5,000 editorials, news stories, features, and commentaries. Trained as a medical doctor, Maung now sees himself as a policy critic and leading advocate for economic and political reform in Myanmar.



Nachiket Mor – India

Nachiket Mor is Executive Director of ICICI Bank, one of India's premier banks that offer a spectrum of financial services to the corporate sector. Mor, 40, joined ICICI in his early twenties and rose quickly through the ranks, earning a reputation as both a highly skilled economist and a talented manager of people. He now manages corporate and government banking, and rural- and micro-banking portfolios. Earlier this year, ICICI became the first bank in the world to securitize its micro-financing portfolio. Mor hopes to make more money available for development projects in impoverished areas of rural India. Outside of ICICI, Mor serves on the governing boards of the Pratham India Education Initiative, the Institute for Financial Management & Research (IFMR), and the Indian Association of Corporate Treasurers (INACT).



Mteto Nyati – South Africa

Mteto Nyati is a top executive with IBM in South Africa. Understanding the important role corporations can play in affecting social change through economic empowerment, Nyati is helping to close the "digital divide" between the First World and Africa by building and managing a community of independent business partners who market IBM products to small- and medium-sized businesses in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. A mechanical engineer by training, Nyati, 39, joined IBM in 1996 to bring innovative IT solutions to South Africa's paper and pulp industry. He subsequently became a business unit leader for IBM South Africa's Telecommunications and Mid-market divisions, winning the prestigious IBM Golden Circle award in 1998.



Robert Piper – Australia

Over the last 15 years, Robert Piper has developed a reputation as an innovative and resourceful manager of United Nations projects in some of the world's most unstable countries. Piper, who works for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), most recently served as the United Nations Development Coordinator and head of UNDP in Kosovo from early 2002 to mid 2004. A native of Australia, Piper, 38, launched his development career administering projects in the Philippines and Papua New Guinea from the Canberra Headquarters of the Australian Aid Agency, AusAid. After a stint in Thailand with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), in 1991 he joined the UNDP as Assistant Resident Representative in Cambodia, where he managed rehabilitation, refugee and mine action projects. From 1994 to 1997, Piper managed UNDP country programs in Fiji, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands and supervised regional environmental projects. Piper later held a number of key posts at UNDP headquarters in New York, dealing primarily with operations in crisis countries, including two years as the Deputy of UNDP's Emergency Response Division.

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Emran Razzaghi – Iran

As director of the Iranian government's Bureau of Youth Health, Emran Razzaghi focuses on the complex problem of drug abuse. He chairs several research and prevention associations, including the Directing Board of the Scientific Association on Addictions and also serves on the Iranian National Committee on Drug Related Harm Reduction. As director of Prevention Affairs at the Iranian Welfare Organization, he leads a team of experts charged with devising and implementing Iran's first national drug prevention strategy. Razzaghi, 43, has also been a professor of psychiatry at the Tehran University of Medical Science since 1991 and has held top posts at numerous professional associations.



Heather Stevens – Northern Ireland (UK)

Heather Stevens has served as head of Northern Ireland's Children and Young People's Unit, developing and implementing a 10-year government strategy to ensure that the rights and needs of children and young people are at the heart of government policy-making. After graduating from Queen's University in Belfast with a degree in law, Stevens spent a year practicing family law before joining the government to work on family law reform. As a Senior Legal Assistant in the Office of Law Reform from 1994 to 2000, she played a central role in drafting new legislation dealing with domestic violence and divorce. In 2000, Stevens, 35, took over as Head of the Human Rights Unit in the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister, where she led the team charged with preparing the way for implementation of Northern Ireland's Human Rights Act 2000. Upon her return, Stevens will join the Department for Employment and Learning becoming the youngest member of the Northern Ireland Civil Service.